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UNCLAS ASUNCION 001109

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

STATE FOR U/S DOBRIANSKY
STATE PLEASE PASS TO USAID LAC/AA
NSC FOR SUE CRONIN
SOUTHCOM FOR POLAD DAN JOHNSON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [TBIO](#) [ECON](#) [PREL](#) [SOCI](#) [PA](#) [KSTH](#) [WHO](#)

SUBJECT: PARAGUAY ON ADDRESSING THE THREAT OF AVIAN
INFLUENZA

REF: STATE 153802

[1](#)1. (U) On 9/1, the Ambassador emphasized reftel talking points in a meeting with Acting Foreign Minister Emilio Gimenez.

[1](#)2. (SBU) Gimenez advised that the GOP already has established an avian influenza task force to deal with suspected cases of exposure to the disease. (Note: The GOP has not advertised the existence of the task force, in order not to cause unnecessary alarm among the country's population. End Note.)

[1](#)3. (U) Gimenez said he would ask Vice Minister of Livestock Gerardo Bogado to designate a senior-level point of contact to facilitate further consultations on this issue. Post will advise septel as soon as such a point of contact has been identified.

KEANE